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Medical Director's Office,

DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE,

JANUARY 26th, 1863.

MEDICAL ORDERS, }
No. 1.

I...In order to obtain the necessary information required in this office, it is hereby directed, that the Medical Director or Senior Medical Officer of the several Army Corps constituting the Department of the Tennessee, commanded by Major-General U. S. Grant, will forward to this office without delay, the number of and name of each Medical Officer on duty in his Corps, designating their rank, corps and duty to which they are at present assigned, giving also the number of and name of those now absent, on what duty and by what authority.

II...They will also report the number of Ambulances, Medical Dispensing Wagons and Hospital Tents, now in their Corps, designating how distributed, and in whose charge, as also for what period the several Regiments are provided with the necessary Medical and Hospital Supplies.

III...The attention of Medical Officers in charge of General Hospitals is called to Circular (No. 13) from the Surgeon General's Office, dated Washington City, December 5th, 1862, and they will in future comply strictly with its requirements, and will in addition report forthwith the number of and name of each Medical Officer on duty in their respective Hospitals, designating their rank and Corps, and including those also under contract; with a report of the number of beds and weekly thereafter the number of vacant beds in each Hospital.

IV...In order to correct an erroneous impression which seems to be very generally entertained, Medical Officers are informed, that the *Medical Dispensing Wagons* are not intended to supercede the usual means of transportation of *Regimental Medical Supplies*, but rather as *deposits of supply*, accompanying the army in the field, to be used during a battle, from which to draw the materials for supplying the temporary Field Hospitals and the Regiments with such articles, of which their Regimental supplies may have, by any cause, become exhausted,

V...This view being entertained will be carried out in this Department during the coming campaign, and when the necessary information is obtained, to ascertain the number on hand, they will be apportioned to the several Corps, according to their numerical strength, and in all cases these Wagons will be exclusively under the control of the Medical Directors of the several Corps.

VI...In anticipation of a battle, the Medical Directors of each Corps will establish temporary *Field Hospitals*, where all operations are to be performed, and for this purpose they will detail two Surgeons and two Assistant Surgeons from those of their command, of known skill and experience, as operators, and no operation involving the loss of a limb, or any other of importance, will be performed by any Medical Officer before the case has been submitted to the inspection and decision of these gentlemen.

VII...The Corps Directors will also detail from the Assistant Surgeons of their command a sufficient number who shall have charge and direction of the Ambulance Corps, employed in conveying the wounded from the field, to the temporary Hospitals, and they will, in all cases, be provided with the necessary appliances for controlling hemorrhages, the temporary adjustment of fractures, as also with the proper supply of stimulants.

VIII...It having been brought to the notice of the Medical Director of this Department that transfers of Medical Officers have been attempted, by officers having no authority to do so, it is hereby directed that, in future, no changes of the present status of the Medical Officers will be recognized, except through the proper channel of this office.

By Order of Major General U. S. GRANT.

C. H. LAUB, Surg. U. S. A.,

Medical Director, Dep't. Tenn.

